

THE GARZETTE



Volume 17, Issue 09

147.075+

444.525+5mhz

53.110 -1mhz

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From the President: Norm Schklar, WA4ZXV



Leaves are already falling in my yard. I had to sweep off the front porch just to let the pizza delivery guy get to the door. Short summer!

Tropical storm season is evidently upon us. I was gone for most of the Faye's rain and wind, but I'm here now and hearing all kinds of forecasts for Gustav and Hanna. I even took out my list of necessary supplies for a deployment. I haven't cleared it with the XYL yet, I guess I'll wait until the storms hit before asking permission to leave for a few days. But I am taking out my list and making sure I know where I put the gear I might take with me. Much of it is still scattered about from Field Day.

Many of us in Amateur Radio would like to help in times of emergency. To be able to help we need to be prepared and practiced. You can read the books until you are blue in the face, but it doesn't all fit together until you need to use it in real life or, in practice and testing. Field Day is a good practice session, but it's just a small portion of what you might need if called to a storm devastated area. Did you bring everything you need to keep your station running for 36 hours? Could you deploy an antenna, program your radio for the local repeater or direct frequency? Could you, provide power to keep it going for several hours without outside help? Would you have paper, pencil, headphones? Do you have some idea as to which local HF nets might be used for passing traffic out of the immediate area?

And also remember that once in an emergency area, you may just as likely be used to support other services that don't even use your radio communications skills. So gloves, good shoes/boots, tough clothing and water become necessary equipment for helping fill your "go kit".

So you can't deploy. Spend what time you can monitoring the nets. Maybe the local authorities need help. During Katrina, several of us helped with the local Red Cross shelter. And don't be discouraged if you try to volunteer once and they say they don't need you. Keep listening and watching. During Katrina, I went to one of the first shelters, and they had more volunteers than displaced persons. It takes a while for the system to start working and the leadership to get a grasp of the situation.

Remember, in the formal Emergency planning, Amateur Radio is in the logistic section. We are not expected to be tactical. We are generally there in the aftermath, and supporting the recovery efforts. Remember, you are generally not welcome in a disaster area unless requested. And those requests should come through our local emergency management agencies.

Don't self deploy! These are just my thoughts, Gwinnett and Section ARES are the authorities and their instructions and suggestions should take precedence.

The September 9th program should prove interesting for all of us. Radio Networking, Interoperability and Control with Asterisk presented by Steve Henke, W9SH. If you wish to read more about Asterisk, see http://www.asterisk.org/.

73 for now

Norm, WA4ZXV

September 2008

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6 0730 breakfast
7	8 2000 2m net	9	10 2100 6m net	11	12	13 0730 breakfast
14	15 2000 2m net	16	17 2100 6m net	18	19	20 0730 breakfast
21	22 2000 2m net	23	24 2100 6m net	25	26	27 0730 breakfast
28	29 2000 2m net	30	1 Oct. 2100 6m net	2	3	4 0730 breakfast
5	6 2000 2m net	7	8 2100 6m net	9	10	11 0730 breakfast

GARS Recurring Calendar

- Monthly club meeting is the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:30 PM.
 Check the Web Site for Location.
- Every Monday at 8 PM local time: GARS Want, Swap, Sell, and Information Net on the GARS 2 meter repeater
- Every Wednesday at 9 PM local time: GARS 6 meter net on the GARS 6 meter repeater
- Every Saturday at 7:30 AM local time: GARS Weekly Family Breakfast, Golden Corral Restaurant, Riverside Drive, Lawrenceville

The GARZETTE

The GARZETTE is the official monthly organ of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society serving its members and other persons interested in the advancement of the amateur radio art.

Original articles, art, and photos are invited and encouraged. Previously copyrighted submissions cannot be accepted for reprinting unless permission from the appropriate publisher is provided in writing along with the information being submitted. If reprints are from publications allowing their unrestricted use, please include a copy of the printed permission contained in the publication.

If possible, bring your articles to the monthly meeting in Microsoft Word format or email to ka4kkf@arrl.net. Artwork can be accepted in most any graphics format and can be submitted via email to the same address. Alternate means of submittal can be arranged when necessary. In keeping with the amateur radio spirit, permission is hereby granted for the reproduction of *The GARZETTE* articles by other amateur radio club newsletters provided that proper credit is given to the individual author and to *The GARZETTE*.

The GARZETTE is published each month with the assistance of Hal Manning, who prints the news letter. Rick Patchin, KD4RFK does the final production work on The GARZETTE by folding & labeling. Bill Cherepy, WB4WTN, stamps and gets the end product to the Post Office each month. Norm Schklar, wa4zxv, manages email delivery. Many thanks to each of them and all article contributors. Deadline for submissions is the 20th of each month for inclusion in the following month's issue. For any additional information contact: Newsletter Editor:

David Adcock ka4kkf (770-271-9398) ka4kkf@arrl.net

All correspondence relating to articles posted in *The GARZETTE* or for information concerning advertising rates should be directed to the following address:

Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society P.O. Box 88 Lilburn, GA 30048 Attn: Newsletter Editor

Do you know a boy or girl 14 to 21 years old who wants to:

Climb, Hike
Canoe, Camp
Talk on an amateur radio
Have Fun
Tell them about

Venture Crew 73

We meet the second Tuesday of each Month at 7:00PM prior to the GARS meeting at St. Marguerite D'Youville Church..

For more information Visit www.gars.org/crew73 or contact Ray Back:

Email <u>crew73@gars.org</u> Phone **(770) 295-9174**

GARS Communication System

70 Cm Repeater

444.525(+) MHz 82.5 PL Tone

APRS

144.390 -- 1200 Baud W4GR

6 Meter Repeater

53.110 (-1 MHz) 82.5 PL Tone

<u>D-Star</u> <u>WD4STR</u> 146.970 - (600KHZ) 440.550 + (5MHZ)

2 Meter Repeater

147.075(+) MHz 82.5 PL Tone

Main Repeater Site
Oak Street, Lawrenceville
Backup Repeater Site
Lanier Mountain, Snellville
Remote Receive Sites
Bogan Road, Buford
Goshen Springs Road,
Norcross
Lanier Mountain, Snellville

At the Sunday, August 17th GARS Sponsored Ham Radio License Testing Session: Technician Class License - 2 passed, 1 failed General Class License - 2 passed, 1 failed Extra Class License - 1 passed



Metro Atlanta VE Exam Schedule

GARS publishes Metro Atlanta area VE exam schedules as a service and is not responsible for errors or changes. Call and confirm schedules before going. All sessions are walk-in. Take copies of current license and certificate of completed elements with you to all sessions. Find additional sessions online at www.arrl-qa.orq

First Saturday, Even Months

9:00AM EOC Building Butch Nitz, AF4FS (770) 968-8780

First Wednesday

7:00 PM ARRL/VEC Roberts School 4681 School Street, Acworth Jodi Escher AG4BK 770-387-1591

Second Tuesday

7:00PM Walton EMC 3645 Lenora Church Rd, Snellville Wayne Taylor, WD4CCA (770)498-7759

Second Saturday, Odd Months

ARRL VEC 8:30 AM Stone Mountain Methodist Church 5312 West Mountain St. Stone Mountain (770)978 - 3179

Third Saturday CA VEC

9:00AM 9:00AM

Marietta First United

Methodist Church Room 305,

Meeting is at 7:30 PM 56 Whitlock Ave Marietta David Still, WB4RRD (770) 973-2566

Fourth Tuesday

ARRL VEC 7:00 PM United Way Service Center 6279 Fairburn Road, Douglasville

Third Sunday

W5YI VEC 3:00 - 5:00 PM Lawrenceville Masonic Lodge Meeting at 7:30 PM

465 South Perry Street Talk In - 146 760(-) 465 South Perry Street Lawrenceville , GA 30044 770-963-5721

Fourth Sunday

2:30 PM Room 301 David Ziskind, KE4QLH meeting at 7:30 PM (404) 966-6864 Talk In - 145.47(-)

Metro Atlanta Club Meetings

First Tuesday Kennehoochee ARC

Southern Polytechnic State University Meeting begins at 7:30 PM Talk In 146.880(-)

Second Monday Georgia Tech ARC

Room W218 Van Leer Electrical Engineering Bldg. Georgia Tech Campus Meeting at 7:00 PM

First Thursday Atlanta Radio Club

Meeting is at 7:30 PM Talk In -146.820(-)

N.E. Georgia ARC

Commerce Public Library Meeting is at 6:30 PM Talk In - 147.225(+)PL 123.0

Second Thursday Alford Memorial Radio Club

Annistown Road Baptist Church Intersection of Annistown Rd & Spain Rd Stone Mountain Dinner at 6:00 PM Talk In - 146.760(-)

Third Tuesday North Fulton Amateur Radio League

Alpharetta EOC located at Bob Varone, W4ETN Georgia Tech Student Center 2970 Webb Bridge Road, in Alpharetta

First Saturday North GA QRP Club

Wieuca Baptist Church on Peachtree Rd/Wieuca, 10 AM

August 2008 GARS General Meeting

August 12, 2008

President Norm Schklar, WA4ZXV, called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

The first order of business was an announcement by Program Manager Kyle Albritton, W4KDA, that Emory Anderson Albritton was born on August 9. Karen Albritton, KI4HPP, is home and doing well. Emory is expected to be released this week.

Newly licensed HAMs were recognized:

Steve Richardson, KJ4EQM

Bill Zingleman, KJ4FOE

Tim Zingleman, KJ4FOD.

First time visitors were then recognized.

Introductions were then made of all those present.

Norm announced that the Dog Show is August 22, 23, and 24 and volunteers are needed. This is the major fund raiser for the club and is a lot of fun. More information can be found on www.gars.org.

TechFest will be January 10, 2009, and will include lunch, chili cookoff, tailgating and lots of activities. It is all free.

Committee reports:

Membership: no new members.

Treasurer: Checking account has a balance of \$5,113.43

Money Market account has a balance of \$1,831.60.

Repeater: Eddie Foust, WD4JEM, repeater manager discussed problems with accessing the repeater and the need to set the tone to 82.5 and encode. He also stated that multi-mode radios can cause audio problems when switching from HF mode to FM.

Scouting events: Webeloes Woods and Night Owl Camporee are coming up and volunteers are needed for both.

Announcements:

Chris Fowler, KI4YMD, announced the Camp Twin Lakes event is scheduled for October 26 and volunteers are needed. More information can be found at www.spinforkids.org

The GARS Holiday party is scheduled for December 12 - mark your calendars now.

Dave Bruse, W4DTR, announced that the Elmer program is off and running and if you need help contact Dave.

Norm announced that a volunteer is needed to prepare a list of advertisers in QST and other ham-related magazines with contact information. This information will be used to solicit door prices for TechFest and the Holiday Party. Dave Jubon stated that this information was available from ARRL and he would get the information.

Break

Dave Bruse, W4DTR, gave a short program on the Field Day results. We had 4,266 total QSO points and with bonuses a total score of 5,796 – more than 1,000 more points than last year. Norm Schklar, WA4ZXV, received a certificate for the most QSO's. He had a total of 221 contacts.

Robin Cutshaw, AA4RC, gave a very interesting program on amateur satellites which included a demonstration and contact when the satellite passed over at 8:45 pm.

Prize drawings were held.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:17 pm.

EMERGENCY NETS

AF4FG

I was listening to the repeater Tuesday morning and heard several individuals normally heard on the ARC machine. That machine was in use by ARES to provide communications for the Red Cross in coping with Gustav so they used W4GR during their morning drive. We're happy to accommodate them, but I did hear several comments worthy of mention to all hams.

The ARC machine is a linked repeater and the emergency net stretched all the way into Florida. By Tuesday morning it wasn't being used much and the group on our repeater questioned the necessity of tying up their usual machine when nothing was happening and while phone service was working fine. Apparently it was especially aggravating to hear the net control operator talk to another ham about breakfast and generally chit chat about matters not related to the emergency. They weren't mad or disagreeable but they had some valid questions that need to be answered.

The Red Cross needed to be in constant contact with those providing emergency shelters as well as with those providing material and manpower support. How would you like to have been the incident commander in Florida and have to make a dozen or so phone calls to find out which shelters had space? Were there enough phone lines into the various agencies or would you have gotten busy signals? Did all shelters or even agencies have a phone operator or would you have gotten an answering machine after listening to a phone tree? How much time would you have had to devote to that endeavor or would you have trusted a volunteer to do the job for you? And what would you have said to the people waiting to evacuate the stricken area while someone tried to make phone contact with the those remote agencies providing shelters? It would have been a lot easier to hand one message to a ham operator who professionally and reliably passed your message to the proper individuals using a system that was guaranteed to have an operator on the other end who could be trusted to get the message to the proper individual in a timely manner.

So even though there was little traffic and the phones were working fine it was necessary to keep the net open as long as the incident commander thought it might be needed. What wasn't necessary was a net control operator using the repeater for personal use or chit chat. This only illustrates the need for hams to be properly trained before getting involved with our served agencies. What would the Red Cross or a local news station think if they heard this kind of "traffic"? What if someone needed the repeater to pass a critical message?

From what I heard it sounds like we all need to be more mindful of our responsibilities as amateur radio operators. We're part of the Amateur Radio <u>Service</u> and we need to render that service when called upon to do so even though it's inconvenient. We need to train ourselves and constantly update our training so that we can be more useful to our served agencies. And we need to understand that there will be times when our routines are interrupted so that those in need can be served.

Elmering CW Ops

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

I have a reputation for being a CW zealot. It's a reputation that I quite deserve, thank you very much, and one that I'm proud of. Working CW is a heckuva lot of fun, and I want to help as many hams as I can enjoy it as much as I do. Unlike some OFs (e-mail me if you're not familiar with that CW abbreviation) who just complain that no one operates CW anymore or bemoan the elimination of the code test, I try to walk the walk as well as talk the talk. Here are some of the things I do to get guys to operate CW:

I always carry around copies of the K7QO Code Course on CD-ROM http://www.kc5cqm.org/pmwiki/pmwiki.php?n=Main.K7QOcwCourse . K7QO has graciously allowed this version to be distributed freely, and when I'm at a ham event, and anyone expresses even the slightest interest in CW, I pull one out of my briefcase and hand it to him or her.

- * I try to keep one or two inexpensive paddles around to sell to interested folks. Bencher BY-1s are good starter paddles, and you can often find them at hamfests or on EBay for fifty to sixty bucks. I usually keep one or two "in stock." When someone asks about paddles, I offer to sell them one of the ones I have for exactly what I paid for it. Since they know me, they get a good feeling that they're getting a decent paddle at a decent price.

 And once they have it in the shack, it takes away one excuse for not operating CW. I also, provide technical support. By that I mean I help them get the key and keyer adjusted properly and help them use it properly.
- * I never denigrate or complain about hams that never had to pass a code test. That's a sure turnoff. As soon as people get the feeling that you're looking down your nose at them, you lose all credibility with them and they just stop listening to you. My personal opinion is that if more folks have ham licenses, then the pool of potential CW operators is bigger.
- * I never denigrate or complain about hams that don't operate CW. See above.
- * I acknowledge that Morse Code can be difficult to learn. I often apologize for the fact that I got into it when I was young and it was easier for me to pick it up then. I also apologize that I seem to have at least a limited talent for Morse Code. I acknowledge that this is not something one learns overnight. You're more likely to win someone over if you sympathize instead of criticize. I like to challenge them to learn it, noting that once they've acquired the skill, it's something that they can be proud of. Not only that, it's a lot of fun!
- * I try to show them how much fun CW is! I have an Elecraft KX-1, which I take to things like club picnics. Throw up a simple antenna and I am on the air making contacts. I also invite guys to my shack and show them in person how cool it is.

Finally, I give presentations to just about any club that invites me, if I can make the arrangements. On my blog at http://kb6nu.com/a-cw-presentation-for-your-club/, you can find the text for the slides I used for my presentation, "CW is Fun!" Feel free to use them to give a presentation to your club.

Who knows? If you give this presentation to your club, maybe you'll even get one or two guys interested enough in CW to learn the code and get on the air. If every current CW op Elmered one other ham every year, the CW bands would be chock full of activity. We'd be complaining that it's impossible to find a clear frequency instead of complaining that it's getting hard to find a contact.

10m FM Repeaters, and lots of 'em

by

Kyle W4KDA 08/01/08

As some of you know, there was a huge opening on 10m and 6m yesterday evening (07/31/08). My fried Todd called me on the radio to let me know he had just completed 2 QSOs on 10m into **Italy** with his vertical.

When I got (made) a free moment, I brought up 6m, and it was hot! Instead of working my favorite band, I moved over to 10m, and there was a great deal of activity there as well. After I made a few SSB contacts to the Northeast, I thought I would try some 10m FM.

First let me say, I had never made a 10m FM contact before. I spun the dial up and down the FM portion of 10m (29.5 - 29.7 MHz if memory serves). Suddenly there was a S9+60dB carrier and a second later a repeater, W1OJ, sounded off. I looked it up in my ARRL Repeater Directory and it is in Bolton Massachusetts. That was so cool, I just had to set up my rig for split (repeater) operation. The directory told me it was a "-" offset, and I know the 10m FM band is narrow, but I could not find a reference on the split. I guessed 100 kHz, and that was right because I keyed briefly and brought up a repeater. Bingo! I tossed my callsign out phonetically, then alphabetically - nice and slow so Mike K4HBI would be proud of me.

Kidding aside, I have found that when I give my callsign out sssllllooowwwllllyyy, I make more contacts. How slow? I make my callsign take two or three times as much time as I think it should. When learning this, I did like Mike suggests and wrote it while I said it. And it works! When people truly understand you because you speak clearly and slowly, they call back. It is just that simple. When you talk fast and give your callsign at the speed of light, or "SING" it, do not be surprised when it sounds as if you are all alone on the frequency or repeater. Speak slowly and they will come. That would be a great line for a movie.

Getting back to my 10m repeater adventure, people were monitoring those 10m repeaters and heard me - LOTS of people heard me. And oh boy did they respond. The problem was, and I had never experienced this before, I had keyed up probably at least 8 repeaters across the country with my 100W omnidirectional signal.

Yes, a bit of pandemonium ensued. I only made two successful contacts/QSOs, but it was a good learning experience. Both of the successful contacts were using lower power to their local repeater, to talk with me. One guy told me he was running 4W to hit the local repeater. On my side of the path, I learned that I needed at least 50W to contact their local repeaters, which was enough to key up multiple other repeaters since the band was open. When I would release my PTT, I found that we had to wait for all the other repeaters to stop transmitting before I could hear the party with whom I was trying to converse. When they waited for about 5 seconds before transmitting, it worked, and it was just plain cool!

In this case, 10m FM bounced on the atmosphere sounded great - honestly just as good as 2m. I enjoyed both the QSOs and the learning experience. I think that if I had a directional antenna for 10m, I might have brought up just a single far away repeater and enjoyed the experience even more. I look forward to trying it again in the future.

GARS APPAREL ORDER FORM

NAME:	PHONE #	
CALL:	<u> </u>	
NAME TO BE EMBROIDERED:		
CALL SIGN TO BE EMBROIDERED.		

ITEM	SIZE	QUANTITY	PRICE	TOTAL
T-SHIRT				
Red WITHOUT name & call			\$20.00	
White WITHOUT name & call			\$20.00	
Red WITH name & call			\$20.00	
White WITH name & call			\$20.00	
GOLF SHIRT WITHOUT name & call				
Red			\$24.00	
White			\$24.00	
GOLF SHIRT WITH name & call				
Red			\$28.00	
White			\$28.00	
SWEATSHIRT				
Red WITHOUT name & call			\$30.00	
White WITHOUT name & call			\$30.00	
Red WITH name & call			\$30.00	
White WITH name & call			\$30.00	
LIGHTWEIGHT JACKET RED ONLY				
WITHOUT name & call			\$31.00	
WITH name & call			\$35.00	
HEAVYWEIGHT JACKET RED ONLY				
WITHOUT name & call			\$41.00	
WITH name & call			\$45.00	
GARS BADGE WITH name & call			\$9.00	
HAT WITHOUT name & call				
Red			\$9.00	
White			\$9.00	
HAT WITH name & call				
Red			\$14.00	
White			\$14.00	

TOTAL ORDER PRICE:

Please attach your check made payable to GARS and return to Dick Sandberg, N9SXJ or mail to:

GARS

P.O. Box 88

Lilburn, Georgia 30048

NOTE: Please allow at least 4 weeks for delivery of items. Some items may need to be special ordered.

Thanks and 73s! -- Dick N9SXJ

Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society P.O. Box 88 Lilburn, GA 30048

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NEW MEMBER

RENEWAL

Amateur Call Sign	License Class	Novice	Technician	General
Name		Advanced	Extra 	
Address				
City State	Zip			
Email address		_		
Home Telephone	Work Telep	hone		
Cell Telephone	Date of Birtl	h/_	/ (m	nm/dd/yy)
ARRL Member Yes No Life				
Interests				
I prefer to receive the GARZETTE newsletter by	y: US Mail	Email (pl	ease check only	y one)
Type of Membership		Optiona	l Contribut	ions
Individual \$30.00 annually Student \$15.00 annually		Repeate	er Fund \$	
Senior \$15.00 annually (over age 65) Family ** \$35.00 annually		Scholar	ship Fund \$	
** Available for family members residing at the sai	me address			
Additional Family Members **				
Name	Date of Bi	rth/	/ (m	nm/dd/yy)
License Class Technician General Ex	xtra ARRL Mer	mber Yes	No	Life
Interests				
Name:	Date of Ri	rth /	/ (m	nm/dd/w/\
	xtra ARRL Mer			Life
				LIIG
Interests I agree to abide by the By-Laws of the Gwinnett A				ership is subject to the
approval of the Club. Applicant Signature		Date	e/	_/

GARS Appreciates these fine sponsors that support our great organization!

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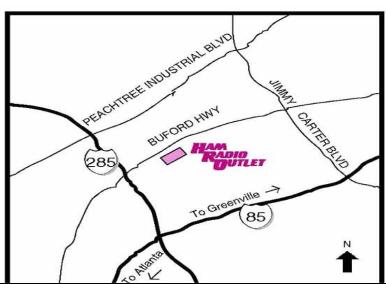
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Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society P.O. Box 88 Lilburn, GA 30048



To receive the **Garzette** via e mail contact, please contact the membership chairman

Saturday Morning

Breakfast

Join us at the Golden Coral on Riverside Drive in

Lawrenceville at 7:30 a.m.

Next Meeting

Tuesday, September 9th

The Meetings are on the Second Tuesday of the month 7:30pm at the St Marguerite D'Youville Church,

85 Gloster Rd NW,

Lawrenceville, GA 30044. Just off Highway 29 SW of Lawrenceville.

Directions on the Web site.

http://www.gars.org

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